

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:697
ANSWERED ON:03.03.2008
NATIONAL LAND COMMISSION
Vijay Krishna Shri

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to set up a National Land Commission for formulating land policy;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the agricultural land is shrinking day by day and land holding have become uneconomical for the farmers; and
- (d) if so, the details of the present pattern of land shrinkage and data regarding average land holdings State-wise?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA)

(a) & (b): No, Sir. However, Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India has set up a National Council for Land Reforms under the Chairmanship of Prime Minister of India. The other members of the Council include Union Ministers of Rural Development, Agriculture, Environment & Forests, Panchayati Raj, Tribal Affairs, Social Justice & Empowerment, Deputy Chairman Planning Commission, Chief Ministers of Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Karnataka, Kerala, Maharashtra, Orissa, Rajasthan, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh & West Bengal and other distinguished members. This Council will lay down broad guidelines and policy recommendations on agrarian relations and land reforms.

(c) & (d): The total cultivable land was 185.09 million ha. in 1980-81 which has reduced to 182.57 million ha. in 2005-06. During the same period, land under non-agricultural uses has increased from 19.66 million ha. to 24.94 million ha. The details are given in Annexure-1. The details of State-wise average land holdings are given in Annexure-II.